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Universal Periodic Review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Cameroon

Addendum

Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review

* The present document was not edited before being sent to the United Nations translation services.

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No. recommendation	*Cameroon's Decisions*	*Observations*
121.1	Rejected	Cameroon is a de facto abolitionist. For several decades, there have been no death penalties. The legal framework still maintains death penalty as a deterrent.
121.2	Rejected	
121.3	Rejected	
121.4	Rejected	
121.5	Rejected	
121.6	Rejected	
121.7	Rejected	
121.8	Rejected	
121.9	Rejected	
121.10	Rejected	
121.11	Rejected	
121.12	Accepted	As 121.10, 121.11, As 121.23, 121.24, 121.32 to 121.35. Cameroon signed these instruments and pledges to submit before the Parliament bills for their ratification by the next UPR cycle.
121.13	Accepted	
121.14	Accepted	121.19 to 121.21, 121.26, 121.32 to 121.35.
121.15	Accepted	As 121.19 to 121.21, 121.26.
	Accepted	As 121.10, 121.11.
	Accepted	As 121.13.
	Rejected	As 121.1 to 121.9 concerning the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.
121.16	Accepted	As 121.13.
	Accepted	As 121.10, 121.11.
121.17	Accepted	As 121.10, 121.11.
	Accepted	As 121.19, 121.20, 121.21, 121.26.
	Rejected	As 121.1 to 121.9. on the abolition of the death penalty.
121.18	Rejected	
121.19	Accepted	
121.20	Accepted	
121.21	Accepted	
121.22	Accepted	As 121.19, 121.20, 121.21, 121.26.
	Accepted	As 121.23, 121.24, 121.32 to 121.35.

No. recommendation	*Cameroon's Decisions*	*Observations*
121.23	Accepted	The 2016 Penal Code and other legal instruments have provisions on child protection.
121.24	Accepted	
121.25	Accepted	As 121.19, 121.20, 121.21, 121.26.
	Accepted	As 121.13.
121.26	Accepted	
121.27	Rejected	As 121.28.
	Accepted	As 121.19, 121.20, 121.21, 121.26.
121.28	Rejected	The ratification of the Rome Statute is not a prerequisite for collaboration with the ICC.
		Though not Party to the Rome Statute, Cameroon intends to take into account in its legislative framework, crimes falling under the competence of the ICC. In this regards, the Code of Military Justice enacted in 2017 grants competence to Military courts for the prosecution of war crime and the crime of genocide.
121.29	Accepted	
121.30	Accepted	
121.31	Accepted	As 121.13.
	Accepted	As121.10, 121.11.
	Accepted	As 121.23, 121.24, 121.32 to 121.35.
121.32	Accepted	
121.33	Accepted	
121.34	Accepted	
121.35	Accepted	
121.36	Rejected	
121.37	Accepted	As 121.38, 121.40, 121.41.
	Accepted	As 121.10, 121.11.
	Accepted	
121.38	Accepted	Process is ongoing.
121.39	Accepted	As 121.38, 121.40, 121.41.
	Accepted	As 121.10, 121.11.
	Accepted	As 121.13.
121.40	Accepted	
121.41	Accepted	
121.42	Rejected	
121.43	Accepted	
121.44	Accepted	

No. recommendation	*Cameroon's Decision*	*Observations*
121.45	Accepted	
121.46	Accepted	
121.47	Accepted	
121.48	Accepted	
121.49	Accepted	
121.50	Accepted	
121.51	Rejected	
121.52	Rejected	
121.53	Accepted	
121.54	Accepted	
121.55	Accepted	
121.56	Accepted	
121.57	Accepted	
121.58	Accepted	
121.59	Accepted	
121.60	Accepted	
121.61	Accepted	
121.62	Accepted	
121.63	Accepted	
121.64	Accepted	Dialogue is the main option taken by the State to address the situation in the South West and North West.
121.65	Accepted	
121.66	Accepted	As 121.61, 121.63 and 121.64.
121.67	Accepted	
121.68	Accepted	
121.69	Accepted	As 121.140.
121.70	Accepted	
121.71	Accepted	
121.72	Accepted	
121.73	Accepted	
121.74	Rejected	
121.75	Rejected	
121.76	Rejected	
121.77	Rejected	
121.78	Rejected	

No. recommendation	*Cameroon's Decisions*	*Observations*
121.79	Rejected	
121.80	Rejected	
121.81	Rejected	
121.82	Rejected	
121.83	Rejected	
121.84	Rejected	
121.85	Rejected	As 121.79.
121.86	Rejected	
121.87	Rejected	
121.88	Accepted	As 121.56.
121.89	Accepted	
121.90	Noted	
121.91	Noted	
121.92	Rejected	As 121.1 to 121.9.
	Noted	As 121.91, 121.93 to121.96.
121.93	Noted	
121.94	Noted	
121.95	Noted	
121.96	Noted	As 121.92.
	Rejected	As121.6 to 121.9.
121.97	Rejected	
121.98	Rejected	
121.99	Accepted	
121.100	Accepted	
121.101	Accepted	
121.102	Rejected	
121.103	Accepted	
121.104	Noted	
121.105	Accepted	The improvement of detention conditions is a continuous endeavour. With the increased available means, infrastructure is constantly improved, human capacity strengthened, in order to humanize the condition of detainees.
121.106	Accepted	As 121.105.
121.107	Accepted	The guarantees against arbitrary detention are set in the legal framework and are applied by the courts.
		As 121.105.

No. recommendation	*Cameroon's Decisions*	*Observations*
	Accepted	The National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms on a regular basis visits detention facilities. More so, initial and continuous training of Judicial and Legal officers incorporate human rights modules. Furthermore, the National Compensation Commission for victims of abusive arrests and detention is operational.
121.108	Rejected	
121.109	Noted	Persons deprived of liberty are detained in official detention facilities.
121.110	Noted	
121.111	Accepted	As 121.109.
121.112	Accepted	The Minister of Defence has repeatedly taken public stance for a no tolerance policy in case of torture, excessive use of force by military forces. Investigations are opened on alleged cases and perpetrators sanctioned if found guilty.
121.113	Accepted	As 121.120.
121.114	Accepted	As 121.112.
121.115	Accepted	As 121.112.
121.116	Accepted	As 121.112.
121.117	Accepted	As 121.107.
121.118	Noted	The right to public demonstration is guaranteed and expected to be peaceful. Violence is not allowed and perpetrators are accountable in accordance with the law.
121.119	Noted	The rules of admissibility of evidence in electoral matters before a court are stated in the Electoral Code.
121.120	Accepted	The rights to freedom of expression, association and of assembly are guaranteed. Limitations to civil rights and liberties are aimed at protecting the rights of other citizens as well as public order, security, tranquillity and morality.
121.121	Accepted	Freedom of expression is guaranteed and can be exercised in accordance with laws and regulations.
121.122	Accepted	
121.123	Accepted	As 121.120.
121.124	Accepted	As 121.120.
121.125	Accepted	
121.126	Accepted	
121.127	Accepted	
121.128	Accepted	

No. recommendation	*Cameroon's Decisions*	*Observations*
121.129	Noted	An assessment of the implementation of the programme will determine how it should continue. However, the promotion of decent work is at the centre of Government priorities. Actions include the implementation of voluntary insurance for workers of the informal sector, ongoing consultations on universal healthcare, the establishment of the consultative and follow-up committee on social dialogue, the signing of many collective conventions in 2015, etc.
121.130	Accepted	The legal framework provide for equal opportunities for men and women in the labour market. Efforts are made to eliminate discrimination against women in the labour market.
121.131	Accepted	
121.132	Accepted	
121.133	Accepted	To curb violence against women, the National Strategy to Fight against GBV is being implemented. It includes awareness raising, capacity building and sanctions against perpetrators. The Penal Code contains offences likely to address various types of violence against women. Call centres and gender desks have been established for the psychosocial assistance of victims, alongside civil society initiatives. As 121.130.
121.134	Accepted	
121.135	Accepted	Resources are being transferred to councils for assistance to vulnerable persons. Cash transfer to poor households has improved under the social safety net. Voluntary insurance has been opened to workers of the informal sector. The Universal health coverage system is under development. Increase of the amount of families allowances. Income Generating Activities for women and youth. Special Youth Programme with a budget of 102 billion FCFA (180,5 million US Dollars). Within the context of the implementation of the Decent Work country Program, the 1st priority is to increase decent employment opportunities and Income Generating Activities, especially for women, youth and vulnerable groups.
121.136	Accepted	Vision 2035 for Cameroon's Development is in line with the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (GESP) adopted in 2009. The GESP lays emphasis on accelerating growth, creating formal employment and reducing poverty. It aims at

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		increasing growth to 5.5% annual average in the 2010-2020 period ; reduce under employment from 75.8% to less than 50% by 2020 with the creation of many tens of thousands of formal jobs per year over the next ten years; and reduce the rate of monetary poverty from 39.9% in 2007 to 28.7% in 2020. Programmes are being implemented in order to combat poverty. National Community Driven Development Programme (NCDDP)/ Project for the Improvement of Agricultural competitiveness (PACA).
121.137	Accepted	
121.138	Accepted	The new Health sector Strategy (2016–2027) sets out the strategic orientation for the development of the health sector: • Improve services of health districts; • Promoting healthcare; • Preventing sickness; • Mother, child, and adolescent health; • Improving living conditions.
121.139	Accepted	
121.140	Accepted	Equal access to healthcare is guaranteed.
	Accepted	The Penal Code sanctions discrimination based on medical status. Furthermore, the fight against discrimination is a core element of the National Strategic Plan to fight against HIV/AIDS.
	Accepted	The right to health is included in the National Action Plan for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.
121.141	Noted	As 121.140.
121.142	Accepted	As 121.140.
121.143	Accepted	As 121.138.
121.144	Accepted	
121.145	Accepted	
121.146	Accepted	
121.147	Rejected	
121.148	Accepted	
121.149	Accepted	At the level of higher education: • Expansion of the offer of academic training by opening new institutes of higher learning laying emphasis on technological and professional fields • Strengthening of the development of ICT to

No. recommendation	*Cameroon's Decisions*	*Observations*
		enhance distance education.
121.150	Accepted	
121.151	Accepted	
121.152	Noted	The Priority Education Area Support Programme (PASZEP) considers regions with indigenous populations and nomadic communities.
121.153	Accepted	
121.154	Noted	Cameroon is party to human rights conventions relating to the fight against discrimination (CERD, CEDAW, Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa…). Policies and programmes are being developed towards an inclusive educational system.
121.155	Noted	Cameroon will organize the Estates general of Education at the end of which a position will be adopted concerning the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education. However, Cameroon is committed to the policy of non-discrimination, including in the field of education.
121.156	Noted	
121.157	Noted	Sexual harassment is criminalised under the 2016 Penal Code (section 302-1), cases of sexual harassment of students by teachers are heavily sanctioned (both criminal and disciplinary), the Gender National Policy document has also included the improved access to education for girls in its Strategic orientation No. 2.
121.158	Accepted	
121.159	Accepted	
121.160	Accepted	
121.161	Accepted	The fight against child marriage, enhancement of sexual and reproductive health of adolescents contribute to increase the attendance rate of girls.
121.162	Accepted	
121.163	Accepted	As 121.133; 121.161.
	Accepted	The Penal Code has criminalised various forms of violence against women, including Female Genital Mutilation (art 277-1), early and forced marriages (art 356). Henceforth giving a boy or girl below 18 in marriage is a criminal offence contrary to the previous law which set different ages for boys (18) and girls (15). Regarding FGM, less than 1% of the population is concerned by this practice. Two regions are concerned by this practice namely: The Far North and the South West. The cosmopolitan nature of some towns has led to the spread of this phenomenon giving the impression that it is a national concern. Though insignificant, this proportion is considered huge by

No. recommendation	*Cameroon's Decisions*	*Observations*
		Cameroonian authorities for measures to be taken to stamp it out.
		Also, Government showed its determination to combat FGM by signing, on 11 September 2011, a Memorandum of Understanding with the Council of Muslim Dignitaries to continue this sensitisation.
		Furthermore, proximity actions are carried out through local structures created for the sensitisation activities of Traditional Authorities.
		The five year action plan to fight against FGM adopted in 2011 was revised in 2016.
121.164	Accepted	
121.165	Accepted	
121.166	Accepted	
121.167	Noted	
121.168	Accepted	The Penal Code of 12 July 2016 has made provisions to combat discriminatory practices in marriage and family relations. The legal framework is under review to repeal other discriminatory provisions.
		Female Genital Mutilation is criminalised under Section 277-1 of the Penal Code.
121.169	Accepted	Women empowerment is an important component of the National Gender Policy.
121.170	Accepted	In 2009, Cameroon adopted the law on legal assistance which enables underprivileged women to receive assistance.
121.171	Accepted	
121.172	Accepted	
121.173	Accepted	As 121.133; 121.161.
	Accepted	There are provisions of the Penal Code to investigate and prosecute domestic violence.
121.174	Accepted	Section 277-1 Penal Code.
		Section 277-2 Penal Code / The Penal Code, in its Article 277 paragraph 2, punishes any attempt to prevent an organ from growing. This violation includes breast ironing.
		Provisions of the Penal Code on the protection of the physical integrity of the person sanctions discriminatory widowhood rites.
121.175	Accepted	As 121.133.
121.176	Accepted	As 121.133.
121.177	Accepted	As 121.133.
121.178	Accepted	As 121.133.
121.179	Accepted	The Penal Code contains provisions on violence against women. Subsequent marriage of the victim and the

No. recommendation	*Cameroon's Decisions*	*Observations*
		perpetrator does not cancel prosecution as per section 297 of the Code.
121.180	Accepted	As 121.133. There are provisions in the Penal Code that are used to prosecute domestic violence. The Cameroonian Penal Code punishes rape. The formulation of this punishment does not say marital status should be an excuse.
121.181	Accepted	A multi-sectoral action plan for the implementation of the national gender policy and the concept of gender responsive budgeting as lever for its effective implementation have been adopted.
121.182	Accepted	As 121.133.
121.183	Accepted	Elaboration of the National Plan of Action for child Protection is ongoing. Early childhood policy document validated.
121.184	Accepted	In 2014, a quadripartite Committee was set up including Government, employers, workers, and the civil society. Later, the national action plan to eliminate the worst forms of child labour was adopted in 2017. This plan is in line with the resolutions adopted during the 4th Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour, in November 2017 in Buenos Aires
121.185	Noted	As 121.30. Moreover the protection of children's rights as a cross cutting issue is taken into account in the different legal initiative reforms.
121.186	Noted	As per section 350 of Penal Code, assault on children is an aggravating circumstance.
121.187	Noted	
121.188	Accepted	
121.189	Accepted	
121.190	Accepted	
121.191	Accepted	Cameroon is party to international and regional conventions prohibiting the recruitment of children in armed groups and armed forces. Some of these are the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflicts, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. Policies aimed at eradicating the recruitment of children by armed groups are twofold, prevention and rehabilitation. The preventive approach focuses on affording children better conditions of life thus diverting them from possible attractions by armed groups. In this regard, employment opportunities developed include integrating them into the

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		Army as well as the Public Service, development projects are being implemented in areas likely to be affected by insecurity including terrorism. For instance: PLANUT (2014-2017), Projects dedicated to the development of the territory have integrated the areas affected by terrorism. The Lake Chad Basin Development Plan was set up by the LCBC for countries hit by Boko Haram. One of the aspects of this plan was dedicated to the Far North Region of Cameroon and had as objective to fight transnational insecurity through many actions. One is the strategy for the consolidation of peace in the Northern and East Regions of Cameroon (2018-2022). Children associated with armed groups offered rehabilitation opportunities through rehabilitation centres.
121.192	Accepted	A coordination and follow-up committee of strategies to fight against traffic of human organs and ritual crimes was created by Oder No. 012/CAB/PM of 31 January 2013. Kidnappers are prosecuted before the courts and when found guilty are punished.
121.193	Accepted	Apart from the legislative and regulatory framework already mentioned above (as 121.10),to implement its policy for the integration of persons with disabilities at the strategic and operational levels, two Decrees have been issued by the Prime Minister: • Decree No. 2018/PM of 26 July 2018 concerning modalities for the application of Law No. 2010/002 of 13 April 2010 on protection and promotion of persons with disabilities; • Decree No. 2018/6234/PM of 26 July 2018 reorganising the National Committee for Re-adaptation and Socioeconomic Reinsertion of Persons with Disabilities, which has branches at the national level.
121.194	Accepted	As 121.127.
121.195	Accepted	Life Saving Project for the protection of women and children against GBV in humanitarian situation in the Adamawa and East Regions. Government has established a gender desk, call centres, social cohesion areas and committees to assist victims of GBV in all areas.
121.196	Accepted	Cameroon cooperates with stakeholders to provide humanitarian assistance to affected population.

N.B. Different positions are given when necessary, to recommendations with multiple components.